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LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Gayle F. Truly, Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

OCTOBER, 1987

RELEASE DATE:
November 25, 1987

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 1987				REVISED SEPTEMBER 1987				REVISED OCTOBER 1986			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,993.6	1,791.5	202.1	10.1	1,990.9	1,792.3	198.6	10.0	1,996.6	1,731.0	265.6	13.3
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	63.0	57.8	5.2	8.3	62.7	57.6	5.1	8.2	61.2	55.0	6.2	10.2
Baton Rouge 2/	270.8	247.6	23.2	8.6	269.6	246.7	22.9	8.5	264.2	236.0	28.2	10.7
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	72.9	64.1	8.8	12.1	72.6	63.8	8.8	12.2	77.5	62.6	14.9	19.2
Lafayette 4/	103.2	92.6	10.6	10.3	101.5	91.0	10.5	10.4	107.0	90.2	16.8	15.7
Lake Charles 5/	78.3	69.1	9.2	11.7	77.3	68.6	8.7	11.3	75.8	65.4	10.4	13.7
Monroe 6/	71.7	65.5	6.2	8.6	71.8	65.8	6.0	8.4	70.3	63.1	7.2	10.3
New Orleans 7/	609.5	554.1	55.4	9.1	609.1	554.6	54.5	8.9	605.4	537.6	67.8	11.2
Shreveport 8/	167.3	151.1	16.2	9.7	167.2	151.7	15.5	9.3	167.8	148.0	19.8	11.8

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,508,000 for October, an increase of 9,200 from September's revised figure but 6,900 below the October 1986 figure. Seasonal upturns in state and local school employment accounted for the largest portion of this month's increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls. Manufacturing employment was up as both durable and nondurable goods employment increased.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, at 76,600, was 1,000 higher than the September revised figure. An increase in transportation equipment payrolls was mostly responsible for this month's increase. More demand for concrete, gypsum and plaster products accounted for the increase in stone, clay, and glass products payrolls.

Estimated employment in nondurable goods for October was 600 higher than in the prior month and 1,200 higher than the comparable period a year ago. A seasonal upturn in sugar refining was most significant for the growth in the food and kindred products segment.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during October was 1,336,900, an increase of 7,600 from the September revised figure of 1,329,300. An increase in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas was responsible for the higher employment level in mining for October. Construction was unchanged for this month. Increased trucking and warehousing employment was largely responsible for the upturn in transportation and public utilities. Trade payrolls were down in October largely as a result of decreased business for both the durable and nondurable goods segment of wholesale trade. Several segments contributed to the decrease in finance, insurance and real estate employment. Increases in educational services were especially significant in the upward fluctuations of services employment. Government employment in October was up mostly due to increases in state and local education payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 125,000 production workers in manufacturing increased from $453.65 in September to $465.23 in October, a gain of $11.58. Average hourly earnings, at $10.75, was $0.38 below last month's level and $0.24 above October of last year. Weekly hours averaged 42.2 during October, an increase of 0.4 hours from the September figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for October totaled 202,100, an increase of 3,500 from the September revised figure of 198,600. The unemployment rate for October was 10.1 percent, compared to 10.0 percent for September and 13.3 percent for October 1986. The national unemployment rate for October was 5.7 percent, unchanged from the September figure, and 6.6 percent for October of last year. The state's civilian labor force moved from 1,990,900 in September to 1,993,600 in October, an increase of 2,700. Total employment for Louisiana went from 1,792,300 in September to 1,791,500 in October, a decrease of 800.

Louisiana's unemployment rate will probably show a decline in the upcoming months due to hiring for the holiday season. Seasonal growth is expected in retail trade. Government employment may show an increase next month.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change from Sept. 1987	Net Change from October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,508.0	1,498.8	1,514.9	+ 9.2	- 6.9
MINING	60.7	60.6	58.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
Oil and Gas Extraction	57.9	57.8	56.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.8	2.8	2.9	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	85.6	85.6	89.6	0	- 4.0
MANUFACTURING	171.1	169.5	167.4	+ 1.6	+ 3.7
Durable Goods	76.6	75.6	71.7	+ 1.0	+ 4.9
Lumber and Wood Products	11.9	12.0	12.3	- 0.1	- 0.4
Furniture and Fixtures	0.9	0.8	0.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	6.0	5.8	5.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.1	3.0	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	12.8	12.7	12.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.2	9.1	8.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	7.3	7.4	8.0	- 0.1	- 0.7
Transportation Equipment	23.2	22.7	19.2	+ 0.5	+ 4.0
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.2	2.1	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	94.5	93.9	95.7	+ 0.6	- 1.2
Food & Kindred Products	21.9	21.3	23.7	+ 0.6	- 1.8
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.4	8.3	7.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Paper & Allied Products	11.9	11.9	11.9	0	0
Printing & Publishing	9.7	9.8	9.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	25.3	25.3	25.6	0	- 0.3
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.8	12.7	12.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Petroleum Refining	11.9	11.8	11.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.5	4.6	4.4	- 0.1	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	107.5	107.4	106.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.5
Railroad Transportation	5.4	5.4	5.6	0	- 0.2
Transportation, ex. Railroads	60.7	60.4	58.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.8
Water Transportation	24.7	24.7	23.4	0	+ 1.3
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	41.4	41.6	41.5	- 0.2	- 0.1
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.3	18.4	18.6	- 0.1	- 0.3
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	23.1	23.2	22.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	359.9	360.3	366.3	- 0.4	- 6.4
Wholesale Trade	79.6	80.5	83.1	- 0.9	- 3.5
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	43.4	43.8	46.6	- 0.4	- 3.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	36.2	36.7	36.5	- 0.5	- 0.3
Retail Trade	280.3	279.8	283.2	+ 0.5	- 2.9
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	59.4	58.3	59.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.2
Food Stores	57.1	57.2	56.4	- 0.1	+ 0.7
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.0	30.1	30.7	- 0.1	- 0.7
Eating & Drinking Places	81.7	82.6	84.5	- 0.9	- 2.8
Other Retail Trade	52.1	51.6	52.4	+ 0.5	- 0.3

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change from Sept. 1987	Net Change from October 1986
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.7	84.1	85.1	- 0.4	- 1.4
Banking	25.3	25.4	26.3	- 0.1	- 1.0
SERVICES	321.8	318.9	319.0	+ 2.9	+ 2.8
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	24.2	23.4	23.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.0
Personal Services	14.6	14.4	14.7	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Business Services	55.7	55.4	54.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.7	9.6	9.9	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Miscellaneous Repair Services	7.0	6.9	6.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Amusement & Recreation Services	9.5	10.1	9.8	- 0.6	- 0.3
Health Services	98.7	98.5	96.9	+ 0.2	+ 1.8
Legal Services	15.2	15.1	14.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Educational Services	20.3	18.9	21.5	+ 1.4	- 1.2
Social Services	18.6	18.3	18.7	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Membership Organizations	25.9	25.8	26.2	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Miscellaneous Services	16.5	16.5	16.1	0	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	317.7	312.4	322.6	+ 5.3	- 4.9
Federal	35.7	36.0	35.5	- 0.3	+ 0.2
State and Local	282.0	276.4	287.1	+ 5.6	- 5.1
State	102.5	100.4	103.2	+ 2.1	- 0.7
Local	179.5	176.0	183.9	+ 3.5	- 4.4

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$465.23	$453.65	$442.47	42.2	41.8	42.1	$10.75	$11.13	$10.51
Durable Goods	405.42	408.62	392.35	41.4	40.3	40.7	9.87	10.06	9.64
Lumber & Wood Products	357.16	360.91	328.44	43.8	41.1	42.0	8.24	8.69	7.82
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	370.94	386.82	370.99	42.0	39.8	39.3	9.21	9.32	9.44
Fabricated Metal Products	429.88	441.68	391.13	45.3	44.0	42.7	9.75	9.77	9.16
Machinery, ex. Electrical	401.97	407.88	362.25	44.0	42.9	37.5	9.27	9.37	9.66
Electric & Electronic Equip.	459.85	460.54	534.01	37.2	37.6	43.1	12.38	12.23	12.39
Transportation Equipment	424.02	428.58	422.65	38.2	37.3	40.1	11.10	11.49	10.54
Nondurable Goods	518.06	492.20	483.84	42.8	43.1	43.2	11.50	12.02	11.20
Food & Kindred Products	324.53	333.63	324.08	42.5	41.5	43.5	7.85	7.82	7.45
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	191.87	202.01	186.19	37.9	33.9	35.6	5.33	5.66	5.23
Paper & Allied Products	639.35	594.96	573.77	44.4	47.5	43.5	13.40	13.46	13.19
Printing & Publishing	404.00	388.83	394.18	39.0	40.0	39.3	9.97	10.10	10.03
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	736.70	694.17	673.97	45.4	45.9	45.6	15.29	16.05	14.78
Petroleum & Coal Products	695.74	646.07	684.68	44.1	46.6	46.8	14.65	14.93	14.63
Petroleum Refining	706.78	658.74	700.51	44.3	46.9	47.3	14.87	15.07	14.81
MINING	568.09	555.28	527.59	47.5	47.9	45.6	11.69	11.86	11.57
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	543.46	524.80	530.64	40.0	40.8	40.2	13.12	13.32	13.20
BANKING	259.01	260.91	271.27	38.2	38.6	38.1	6.83	6.71	7.12

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 125,000 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 94,200 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 10 87				REVISED 09 87			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	24,400	20,975	3,425	14.0	24,250	20,975	3,275	13.5
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	10,000	8,850	1,150	11.6	9,825	8,675	1,150	11.6
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,400	5,075	1,325	20.7	6,600	5,225	1,375	20.7
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	17,075	14,600	2,475	14.5	17,250	14,750	2,500	14.5
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	15,600	13,925	1,675	10.7	15,200	13,625	1,575	10.3
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,725	6,075	650	9.8	6,750	6,125	625	9.4
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,625	4,075	550	11.8	4,625	4,075	550	11.8
CAMERON (CAMERON)	5,000	4,550	450	9.2	4,875	4,525	350	7.2
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,800	4,100	700	14.7	4,900	4,200	700	14.1
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	8,000	7,250	750	9.2	7,975	7,275	700	8.8
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,500	9,350	1,150	10.9	10,625	9,400	1,225	11.5
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,425	12,100	1,325	9.9	13,400	12,025	1,375	10.2
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,475	3,975	500	11.3	4,575	4,025	550	11.8
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	9,125	8,225	900	9.9	9,175	8,300	875	9.5
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	14,275	12,525	1,750	12.2	14,275	12,550	1,725	12.0
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,925	7,875	1,050	11.9	9,000	7,925	1,075	11.9
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,975	6,275	700	10.2	6,975	6,275	700	10.0
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	27,600	23,400	4,200	15.3	27,550	23,200	4,350	15.8
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	12,175	10,350	1,825	14.9	12,225	10,400	1,825	14.9
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,675	7,100	575	7.4	7,525	7,025	500	6.6
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	14,125	12,175	1,950	13.8	14,050	12,250	1,800	12.9
JENA (LASALLE)	6,900	6,275	625	8.9	6,950	6,325	625	9.0
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	18,800	17,925	875	4.6	18,875	18,050	825	4.4
TALLULAH (MADISON)	6,325	5,400	925	14.7	6,450	5,500	950	14.7
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,650	11,225	1,425	11.3	13,100	11,625	1,475	11.2
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	17,625	16,150	1,475	8.4	17,850	16,400	1,450	8.1
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	9,650	8,550	1,100	11.3	9,750	8,700	1,050	10.7
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	8,100	6,875	1,225	15.2	8,150	6,900	1,250	15.3
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,675	4,200	475	10.0	4,700	4,250	450	9.4
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,225	8,150	1,075	11.7	9,375	8,350	1,025	11.0
MANY (SABINE)	10,175	9,350	825	8.0	10,150	9,325	825	8.2
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	3,025	2,700	325	11.0	3,125	2,775	350	11.3
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,725	7,425	1,300	14.9	8,800	7,450	1,350	15.4
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	34,825	29,575	5,250	15.1	34,900	29,900	5,000	14.3
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	25,200	20,850	4,350	17.2	25,650	21,175	4,475	17.4
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	41,175	36,300	4,875	11.8	41,350	36,525	4,825	11.7
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,700	3,400	300	8.4	3,825	3,525	300	7.8
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,775	7,875	900	10.3	8,875	7,975	900	10.1
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	21,350	18,150	3,200	15.0	21,475	18,350	3,125	14.5
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	20,275	18,600	1,675	8.3	20,300	18,700	1,600	7.9
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	19,150	17,075	2,075	10.9	19,125	17,100	2,025	10.6
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,200	16,925	2,275	11.9	19,150	16,925	2,225	11.6
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	5,200	4,350	850	16.3	5,275	4,425	850	16.2
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,425	4,100	325	7.4	4,350	4,000	350	8.0
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,850	5,350	500	8.4	5,925	5,425	500	8.5

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	46.4	46.1	45.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
MANUFACTURING	3.5	3.5	3.2	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.0	0	+ 0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10.9	10.9	10.6	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	8.7	8.7	8.5	0	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.3	11.2	11.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Health Services	4.5	4.5	4.4	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	12.8	12.6	12.9	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Federal	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.1	9.9	10.3	+ 0.2	- 0.2
State	4.9	4.9	5.1	0	- 0.2
Local	5.2	5.0	5.2	+ 0.2	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 46,400 for the month of October. This was 300 more than the previous month and 700 more than October of last year.

Employment in manufacturing during October was estimated at 3,500. This estimate was unchanged since September, and 300 more than October of last year. The increase was in lumber and wood products, and other durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,900 during October. This estimate was 300 more than September and 400 more than last October. Since last month the majority of this increase was a continuing increase of personnel in education. Compared to last October nonmanufacturing employment has experienced an overall increase. Gains occurred in wholesale and retail trade, finance, insurance, and real estate; services; and federal government, with reductions coming in construction and state government.

During the next thirty days, the number of employed is expected to decrease slightly, with a corresponding rise in the number of unemployed.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	216.3	215.0	214.3	+ 1.3	+ 2.0
MANUFACTURING	19.2	19.1	18.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Durable Goods	4.2	4.2	4.0	0	+ 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.7	0	+ 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Nondurable Goods	15.0	14.9	14.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	2.0	1.9	1.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.4	10.4	10.3	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	20.5	20.5	19.7	0	+ 0.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.4	10.5	10.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	53.5	53.1	52.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.2
Wholesale Trade	11.2	11.2	11.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.3	7.3	7.5	0	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	42.3	41.9	41.2	+ 0.4	+ 1.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.4	13.4	13.5	0	- 0.1
Banking	3.8	3.9	4.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
SERVICES	42.6	42.3	41.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
GOVERNMENT	55.7	55.1	56.8	+ 0.6	- 1.1
Federal	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
State and Local	53.6	53.0	54.6	+ 0.6	- 1.0
State	32.4	31.8	33.2	+ 0.6	- 0.8
Local	21.2	21.2	21.4	0	- 0.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$534.01	$560.68	$525.81	43.1	42.8	42.2	$12.39	$13.10	$12.46
Petro-Chemicals	721.00	738.26	732.00	46.1	45.6	48.8	15.64	16.19	15.00

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 216,300 during October, was up 1,300 from the revised estimate for September and up 2,000 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 19,200, was up 100 during the current period. Durable goods showed no change. Nondurable goods were up due to seasonal increases in sugar and confectionery products.

Total nonmanufacturing was up 1,200 during October. Transportation was down due to less business in services incidental to water transportation. Retail trade was up due to more business in lumber and other building material dealers, variety stores, department stores, men's and boy's clothing and furnishings stores, and used merchandise stores. Banking was down due to less business in commercial and stock savings banks. Services were up due to more business in personnel supply services, and nursing and personal care facilities. State government was up due to seasonal increases in colleges, universities, and professional schools.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,700 production workers in all manufacturing was $534.01, down $26.67 from the revised September average. Average weekly hours, at 43.1 were up 0.3 hours and average hourly earnings, at $12.39 were down $0.71 per hour. More overtime by lower paid employees contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents, at 247,600 during October was up 900 from the September estimate. Unemployment, at 23,200, was up 300 during the current period. The unemployment rate for October was 8.6 percent, compared to 8.5 percent for September and 10.7 percent for October a year ago. The current statewide rate is 10.1 percent and the national rate is 5.7 percent. The Baton Rouge civilian labor force was 270,800 during the current period.

Employment levels in retail trade and services are expected to continue their upward trend during the coming month while the unemployment rate should decline slightly.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 4,600 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 882 applicants in jobs during October.

The consumer price index for September, 1987 for all urban consumers was 344.4 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 339.1 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	52.5	52.5	53.6	0	- 1.1
MANUFACTURING	4.5	4.3	5.2	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Durable Goods	2.8	2.7	3.1	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.6	2.1	+ 0.1	- 0.4
MINING	6.0	6.2	5.9	- 0.2	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	1.4	1.4	1.7	0	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5.9	6.0	5.9	- 0.1	0
Water Transportation	3.9	4.0	3.6	- 0.1	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.5	13.7	13.4	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.6	2.7	3.0	- 0.1	- 0.4
Retail Trade	10.9	11.0	10.4	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.4	3.1	- 0.1	+ 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.3	2.4	2.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
SERVICES	8.2	8.4	8.2	- 0.2	0
GOVERNMENT	10.7	10.1	10.8	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Federal	0.4	0.5	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
State and Local	10.3	9.6	10.3	+ 0.7	0
State	3.3	2.8	3.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.2
Local	7.0	6.8	7.2	+ 0.2	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in October remained at the same level of 52,500 as shown in September. Seasonal gains, mostly in government, offset scattered decreases elsewhere.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,500 in October, increasing 200 over the previous month. Durable goods gained 100 with increased activity in offshore oilfield work. The nondurable goods segment was up 100 over the previous month due to an increase in seafood processing. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 700.

Mining tapered off seasonally, mostly in oil and gas field services. Water transportation showed a small decrease. Services were lowered by a downturn in business services. Employment for banking eased down. Wholesale trade effected layoffs in the nondurable goods segment. In retail trade, eating and drinking places lost workers. More favorably, state government reflected a further autumn increase in state institutions of higher learning. Local government was boosted by a normal seasonal gain in employment by the public schools. Construction held steady.

Estimated unemployment in October remained at the same level of 8,800 as in September. An increase in the labor force helped to bring a small decrease in the unemployment rate. Unemployment presently comprises 12.1 percent of the labor force compared to 12.2 percent in October of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 1,285.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to exhibit a small seasonal overall gain. Trade will benefit from shopping for the holiday season. Unemployment is expected to show a small decrease as employment increases.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	83.8	82.7	85.0	+ 1.1	- 1.2
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Nondurable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.3	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
MINING	11.1	11.1	11.1	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.1	3.2	3.7	- 0.1	- 0.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.4	6.4	6.4	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	21.9	22.0	22.8	- 0.1	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	5.0	5.0	5.1	0	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Retail Trade	16.9	17.0	17.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.8	2.8	3.0	0	- 0.2
Food Stores	2.8	2.8	3.0	0	- 0.2
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Other Retail Trade	9.7	9.8	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.9	3.9	4.0	0	- 0.1
Banking	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	18.6	18.3	17.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
GOVERNMENT	13.0	12.0	13.4	+ 1.0	- 0.4
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	12.2	11.2	12.5	+ 1.0	- 0.3
State	5.4	4.4	5.3	+ 1.0	+ 0.1
Local	6.8	6.8	7.2	0	- 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette LMA was estimated at 83,800. This estimate is 1,100 above last month's estimate, but is still 1,200 below the October 1986 estimate.

Services increased by 300 in October due to an increase in the amusement and recreational and veterinary, animal specialty and landscape industries. Compared to a year ago, this economic group increased by 100.

Government rose by 1,000 in October in the state government sector due to the fall semester convening. The governmental sector showed a decrease of 400 from October of last year.

Construction, wholesale and retail trade sectors both had a decrease of 100 from the previous month.

All other sectors showed no change from last month's estimates.

For the next thirty days, employment should increase due to seasonal hiring and the unemployment rate should decrease.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.9	58.4	57.8	+ 0.5	+ 1.1
MANUFACTURING	11.0	11.1	8.6	- 0.1	+ 2.4
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	0.6	0	+ 2.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	0.4	0	+ 2.4
Nondurable Goods	8.0	8.1	8.0	- 0.1	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.2	7.3	7.2	- 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	5.0	4.7	6.2	+ 0.3	- 1.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	3.6	3.7	3.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.0	13.9	13.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	11.1	11.0	11.1	+ 0.1	0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.1	3.1	3.1	0	0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
SERVICES	10.6	10.4	10.8	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	10.6	10.5	10.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
State and Local	9.9	9.8	9.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
State	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Local	6.2	6.1	6.2	+ 0.1	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles labor market area in October was estimated at 58,900, an increase of 500 over the previous month. Compared to a year ago, Lake Charles LMA employment has increased by 1,100.

The construction sector showed an increase of 300 from the previous month, but is 1,200 below the October 1986 estimate.

Wholesale and retail trade rose by 100 and is up by 200 from a year ago. Services increased by 200 from last month's estimate due to seasonal fluctuations.

Other segments of the economy showed a slight decrease or no change.

Lake Charles employment should increase next month due to hiring for the holiday season.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	55.5	55.2	55.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
MANUFACTURING	7.2	7.2	7.6	0	- 0.4
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.5	0	- 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.9	5.1	0	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.5	3.5	3.7	0	- 0.2
MINING	0.7	0.5	0.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	2.7	2.6	2.9	+ 0.1	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.8	15.0	14.8	- 0.2	0
Wholesale Trade	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.0	11.2	10.9	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.3	1.3	- 0.1	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.4	3.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.6	4.6	4.6	0	0
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
SERVICES	11.5	11.5	11.1	0	+ 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Health Services	4.7	4.7	4.5	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	11.4	11.2	11.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.8	10.6	10.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
State	4.9	4.9	5.0	0	- 0.1
Local	5.9	5.7	5.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose by 300 employees to an estimated 55,500 during October. The gain was in nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,200, was unchanged over the month, but was down 400 workers from one year ago.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 48,300, was 300 above the estimate for September. Mining, up 200, reflects an increase in drilling in the oil and gas industry. Government also increased by 200 as educational facilities began the fall semester. Construction showed a minimal gain of 100. Wholesale and retail trade was down 200. All other segments were unchanged over the month.

Over the next 30 days, employment should rise slightly as retail trade gears up for the upcoming holiday season and construction finishes outside projects before adverse weather conditions prevail. Unemployment should remain constant or decline slightly.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	510.6	510.2	515.2	+ 0.4	- 4.6
MANUFACTURING	42.6	42.2	43.8	+ 0.4	- 1.2
Durable Goods	20.9	20.7	21.0	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	2.4	2.4	2.5	0	- 0.1
Machinery	2.5	2.5	2.6	0	- 0.1
Transportation Equipment	12.2	12.1	12.2	+ 0.1	0
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.6	8.3	8.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.6
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	21.7	21.5	22.8	+ 0.2	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	6.7	6.5	7.1	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	3.7	3.7	4.0	0	- 0.3
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.6	4.6	4.8	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
MINING	16.8	16.8	16.2	0	+ 0.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	15.8	15.8	15.3	0	+ 0.5
CONSTRUCTION	23.5	23.7	25.1	- 0.2	- 1.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	42.8	42.8	42.0	0	+ 0.8
Railroad Transportation	1.6	1.6	1.8	0	- 0.2
Water Transportation	11.8	11.7	11.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.9	133.6	135.4	- 0.7	- 2.5
Wholesale Trade	31.2	31.5	32.5	- 0.3	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.0	18.0	19.2	0	- 1.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.2	13.5	13.3	- 0.3	- 0.1
Retail Trade	101.7	102.1	102.9	- 0.4	- 1.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.4	33.4	33.9	0	- 0.5
Banking	7.1	7.1	7.3	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	133.9	133.7	133.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	84.7	84.0	85.4	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Federal	15.9	15.7	15.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
State and Local	68.8	68.3	69.9	+ 0.5	- 1.1
State	18.9	18.8	20.1	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Local	49.9	49.5	49.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.1

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**
All MANUFACTURING	$424.20	$434.42	$424.68	40.4	40.6	40.6	$10.50	$10.70	$10.46
Durable Goods	386.68	382.40	382.98	39.7	39.1	39.2	9.74	9.78	9.77
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	319.11	315.24	326.30	33.0	32.2	30.9	9.67	9.79	10.56
Fabricated Metal Products	418.71	395.84	458.35	43.3	42.2	43.2	9.67	9.38	10.61
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	364.77	357.20	371.30	38.6	37.6	39.5	9.45	9.50	9.40
Nondurable Goods	461.14	484.26	463.41	41.1	42.0	41.9	11.22	11.53	11.06
Food & Kindred Products	333.12	340.87	323.11	38.6	38.3	39.5	8.63	8.90	8.18
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	155.43	155.30	158.44	31.4	31.5	27.7	4.95	4.93	5.72
Paper & Allied Products	410.42	428.90	354.65	45.2	45.1	41.0	9.08	9.51	8.65
Printing & Publishing	359.30	388.94	370.66	40.1	42.6	41.6	8.96	9.13	8.91
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	715.12	737.24	693.00	44.5	44.6	46.2	16.07	16.53	15.00

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA in October increased to 510,600, a level 400 above September. Gains in government and manufacturing offset decreases elsewhere. Over the year, nonagricultural employment lost 4,600 workers, with most industry divisions showing a decrease.

Manufacturing employment totaled 42,600 in October, up 400 from the previous month. Durable goods showed an increase of 200 over the previous month. Other segments of transportation equipment showed minor decreases. Ship and boat building and repairing increased 300 due to an increase in government contracts. Other durable goods increased over the previous month due to increased hiring in the metal industry segments. Nondurable goods increased by 200 over the previous month; the food and kindred products segment was primarily responsible because of a seasonal increase in seafood processing. All other segments of nondurable goods were unchanged over the previous month. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 1,200.

Local government was boosted by hires of city and parish administrative services. Federal government added workers in the other segment of government. Services showed gains in the hotel-motel industry and in private educational services. Partly offsetting gains, retail trade exhibited decreases mostly in employment by building material dealers and automotive dealers and service stations. Wholesale trade decreased in nondurable goods, mostly in food products. Construction adjusted downward seasonally. A small gain in transportation was offset by a minor decrease in public utilities. Mining held steady and finance, insurance and real estate showed no overall change.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $424.20 per week in October, down $10.22 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were down 12 minutes from the previous month, and average hourly earnings went down $0.20 over the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are down $0.48 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment in October increased to 55,400, a level 900 above September. The increase in the labor force was partly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 9.1 percent of the labor force compared to 8.9 percent in September and 11.2 percent in October of last year. The October rate was lower than the state rate of 10.1 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 10,756.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is predicted to show a small overall seasonal increase. Retail trade will increase from shopping for the holiday season. Services will benefit from the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season. Less favorably, mining and construction will be adversely affected by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably decrease slightly as employment increases.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	October 1987*	Sept. 1987**	October 1986**	Net Change From Sept. 1987	Net Change From October 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	131.4	131.1	133.7	+ 0.3	- 2.3
MANUFACTURING	18.0	18.0	18.7	0	- 0.7
Durable Goods	12.8	12.8	13.3	0	- 0.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Metals and Machinery	7.5	7.6	7.9	- 0.1	- 0.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.9	6.0	6.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Durable Goods	4.8	4.7	4.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Good	5.2	5.2	5.4	0	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.9	0	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	+ 0.1
MINING	3.1	3.2	3.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	8.0	8.2	7.1	- 0.2	+ 0.9
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.9	7.9	8.4	0	- 0.5
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	30.0	29.8	31.4	+ 0.2	- 1.4
Wholesale Trade	7.2	7.1	7.9	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Retail Trade	22.8	22.7	23.5	+ 0.1	- 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.4	7.5	7.8	- 0.1	- 0.4
SERVICES	31.8	31.7	31.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	25.2	24.8	25.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Federal	4.7	4.7	4.4	0	+ 0.3
State and Local	20.5	20.1	20.7	+ 0.4	- 0.2
State	6.3	6.3	6.2	0	+ 0.1
Local	14.2	13.8	14.5	+ 0.4	- 0.3

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**	October '87*	Sept. '87**	October '86**
All MANUFACTURING	$433.58	$462.52	$447.92	38.0	38.9	40.1	$11.41	$11.89	$11.17
Lumber and Wood Products	286.60	270.00	234.15	39.1	37.5	35.0	7.33	7.20	6.69
Metals and Machinery	475.47	473.45	452.23	40.5	40.5	41.0	11.74	11.69	11.03
Food and Kindred Products	307.31	335.55	318.59	38.9	42.8	41.7	7.90	7.84	7.64
Printing and Publishing	339.23	330.71	311.03	35.3	34.2	31.9	9.61	9.67	9.75
Petroleum and Coal Products	554.48	594.70	526.80	46.4	47.5	43.9	11.95	12.52	12.00

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, estimated at 131,400 in October, increased from 131,100 in September, but was 2,300 less than October, 1986. Manufacturing employment for the Shreveport area was unchanged from the previous month and 700 less than one year ago.

Nonmanufacturing employment for this labor area increased from 113,100 in September to 113,400 in October, but remained 1,600 less than one year ago. Employment gains from September to October occurred in trade, services and government. Small employment losses for this period occurred in mining, construction, and finance, insurance, and real estate.

The Shreveport labor area had an estimated 13,700 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of $433.58, down from $462.52 in September, and $447.92 in October, 1986. Average weekly hours dropped to 38.0, down from 38.9 in September and 40.1 for the same period one year ago. Average hourly earnings declined $0.48 from the previous month and increased $0.24 over the year ago earnings.

The current civilian labor force, estimated at 167,300, consisting of 151,100 employed and 16,200 unemployed. The unemployment rate for October was 9.7 percent, up from 9.3 percent in September, but less than the year ago rate of 11.8 percent.

No significant changes are expected in employment or unemployment during the remainder of 1987. Seasonal employment gains in retail trade, during December, should help offset job losses in construction and other outdoor activities due to adverse weather conditions. Total unemployment for this area is expected to remain near the 16,000 level through December of this year.

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